

SITUATION REPORT NO. 30
INCIDENT NO. 97-003
DATE: February 14, 1997 TIME: 12:00 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Winter storms and blizzard conditions statewide.
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: No change from previous reports.
4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: Two U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) representatives are scheduled to arrive in Bismarck on February 18 to meet with North Dakota business owners. The representatives will be scheduling meetings throughout the state with business owners who have experienced reduced sales and increased operating expenses because of the snow disaster. The SBA recently issued a Declaration of Economic Injury for 49 North Dakota counties. Counties not included in the declaration, Billings, Bowman, Golden Valley, and Slope Counties, may be added to the declaration if economic injury due to the severe winter storms is identified. Economic injury loans can amount to up to \$1.5 million for financial needs related to the disaster. The SBA has a toll-free number for business owners, (800) 366-6303.

The N.D. National Guard has recorded \$973,000 in equipment and personnel expenses to date for snow removal operations. Efforts to dig out North Dakota required assistance from more than 350 Air Guard and Army Guard personnel. During the height of "Operation Snowball," nearly 210 members were on duty each day. The National Guard received requests from 22 counties; personnel days total 4,026. Presently, the National Guard has 13 snow removal operations in progress in 11 counties. Staff members expect dozer missions in Foster and Nelson Counties to be completed February 14. Operations may be completed by February 21.

As of February 14, emergency snow removal work has been completed in 21 counties and

two Indian Reservations. County or contractor road crews are nearing completion in moving snow in the following counties: Burleigh, Cavalier, Cass, Eddy, Emmons, Foster, Grand Forks, Griggs, Kidder, Logan, McHenry, McIntosh, McLean, Morton, Nelson, Oliver, Ramsey, Sargent, Sheridan, Steele, Towner, Traill, Walsh, Ward and Wells. Areas where blowing snow and snow depths have created concerns and require daily contact by EOC staff include: Barnes, Dickey, Grant, LaMoure, Ransom, Sioux, and Stutsman Counties.

The Disaster Field Office (DFO) staff members reported February 14 that they have received a total of 241 Notice of Interests (NOIs) to participate in the public assistance program. NOIs have been submitted by: one rural water district; three Indian Reservations; four state agencies; 45 counties; and 161 cities.

State and federal inspectors assigned to the Devils Lake office have visited nine counties and 23 cities. Inspectors at the Valley City office visited eight counties and 16 cities. Minot inspectors traveled to 11 counties and 15 cities, and Bismarck inspectors visited 10 counties and 31 cities.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: The St. Paul and the Omaha Districts of the U.S. Army of Corps of Engineers (USACE) will be conducting flood preparedness meetings February 25 through March 11. Representatives of the USACE, N.D. Division of Emergency Management, National Weather Service and the N.D. National Guard will participate in the meetings. The meeting schedule is as follows:

Date and Time	City	Location
February 25, 1 p.m.	Wahpeton	Law Enforcement Center Community Room, 413 3rd Ave. N
February 25, 7 p.m.	Fargo	Regional LETC, 2802 North University Drive
February 26, 11 a.m.	Valley City	Operations Room, Courthouse Basement, 230 4th St. NW
February 26, 7 p.m.	Grand Forks	Civic Auditorium, 615 1st Ave. N
March 10, 1 p.m.	Williston	County Courthouse, Memorial Room, 205 Broadway East
March 11, 1 p.m.	Bismarck	Bismarck Law Enforcement Center, 700 S. 9th St.
March 20, 12 p.m.	Minot	City Council Chambers

The N.D. Division of Emergency Management's Situation Reports and photos of snow removal efforts are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is: "<http://www.state.nd.us/dem>".

Raymond J. Staiger, Acting State Director